

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MASERU 00401 091538Z

46

ACTION HEW-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 INR-07 IO-10 MED-02 NSAE-00 PA-01

OES-03 USIA-06 PRS-01 CIAE-00 AID-05 FDRE-00 DODE-00

PC-01 PER-01 OC-05 CCO-00 PPT-01 SCA-01 EUR-12 /067 W

----- 055351

R 091412Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4807

INFO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MASERU 401

CAPE TOWN ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CGEN, EAID, LT

SUBJECT: BUBONIC PLAGUE OUTBREAK IN LESOTHO

1. BUBONIC PLAGUE IS REPORTED FROM SOUTHEASTERN DISTRICT OF MOHALIS HOEK, AT VILLAGE NEAR BORDER ACROSS FROM SOUTH AFRICAN TOWN OF ZASTROM. DIAGNOSIS HAS BEEN CONFIRMED BY SCIENTIFIC INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL RESEARCH IN JOHANNESBURG.

2. TROOPS OF POLICE MOBILE UNIT HAVE CORDONED OFF CIRCLE OF THREE MILE RADIUS AROUND AFFECTED VILLAGE. ABOUT 1,000 PEOPLE LIVE WITHIN CORDONED OFF AREA, TWO OF WHOM HAVE DIED FROM PLAGUE. FORTY OTHER CASES REPORTED SO FAR.

3. SOUTH AFRICA HAS CLOSED BORDER POSTS AT MAFETENG, MOHALIS HOEK, AND QUTHING AT APPARENT ORDER OF RSA MINISTRY OF HEALTH. IT UNDERSTOOD HERE THAT MASERU BRIDGE WILL NOT BE CLOSED ALTHOUGH

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MASERU 00401 091538Z

SAG MAY REQUIRE CERTIFICATE OF VACCINATION AGAINST PLAGUE IF OUT-

BREAK SPREADS.

4. GOL HAS INFORMED WHO HEADQUARTERS IN GENEVA.

5. LESOTHO HEALTH OFFICIALS HOPE TO CONTROL PLAGUE AND PREVENT IT FROM TAKING ON PNEUMONIC CHARACTER BY DISPENSING SULPHANILIMIDES AMONG PRESENTLY-AFFECTED POPULATION. SULPHANILIMIDES EXPECTED TO ARRIVE IN LESOTHO SOON. SHIPMENT OF 30,000 DOSES HAS BEEN IN JOHANNESBURG SINCE LAST SATURDAY BUT FORWARDING AGENT BUNGLED ONWARD DELIVERY TO LESOTHO. ANTICIPATE THAT U.S. WILL BE REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE IF PLAGUE ELUDES PRESENT PLANS FOR CONTROL.

6. REQUEST RMO PRETORIA ADVISE ANY PRECAUTIONS THAT SHOULD BE TAKEN BY AMERICAN COMMUNITY.  
HAUGHT

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PLAGUE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 09 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975MASERU00401  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750123-0517  
**From:** MASERU  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750467/aaaacjyi.tel  
**Line Count:** 76  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION HEW  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** KelleyW0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 DEC 2003 by KelleyW0>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** BUBONIC PLAGUE OUTBREAK IN LESOTHO  
**TAGS:** CGEN, EAID, LT  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006